

the Occident and as a rule are ill-adapted in quality and quantity to large scale production and inadequate to supply the needs of any such mammoth industries as flourish in the United States and Western Europe. Bauxite, important for aluminum, is reported to be plentiful. Moreover, with the coming of plastics steel may not be so much in demand.

CHINA PROPER: FLORA AND FAUNA

China has an abundant stock of plants. One expert botanist has declared that she has the richest temperate flora in the world. Competent authorities believe that there are fifteen thousand species, fully half of them peculiar to the country. Many of these plants and trees are useful to man and the number has been enlarged by the introduction through the centuries of scores of others. The great variety in the flora makes for an almost equally rich fauna. The waters of China, too, teem with fish, a large proportion of them edible. A few of the many kinds of domesticated animals may have been indigenous to China and made subject to man there. More of them seem to have been introduced from abroad, some in prehistoric or early historic times.

THE OUTLYING SECTIONS

The second main division of China, what we have called the outlying sections, is made up chiefly of what are usually known politically as Tibet, the New Dominion (Sinkiang), Mongolia, and Manchuria.

The political organization and boundaries of these districts have varied greatly from time to time, even during the past two hundred years. The classification here given is only a rough one and to it exceptions can probably be taken. Kokonor, for instance,

might well be grouped as a separate division.
Moreover, as we
have suggested, for a generation Sinkiang has been
classed as a
province, on a par with the eighteen of China
proper, and parts
of what the older maps show as Tibet and Mongolia
have recently
been organized into provinces. In spite of
Japanese occupation,
the Chinese bitterly resent, too, any implication
that Manchuria
is politically in any way distinct from the China
which lies south
of the Great Wall.